

Timely Tidbits ...

Taylor Establishes Ordinance Hotline

Mayor Cameron G. Priebe has announced that the City of Taylor has a new 24-hour ordinance hotline that allows residents to report violations anonymously.

Residents can call the hotline (734-374-0100) any time and leave an ordinance complaint in a voice-mail message. Within 24 hours of the initial call, an ordinance officer will visit the location of the alleged violation and assess the situation.

"We want people to feel like they can call," said Joseph Nardone, executive director of the Office of Development Services. "We're a department that wants to be corrective in nature, not punitive. When you leave a complaint, you can be helpful to the city."

DEQ To Host Public Hearing on Well Facility

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has planned a public hearing regarding the possible revocation of operating permits previously granted for a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility on Citrin Drive in Romulus. The facility, which includes two deep injection wells, was closed in 2006 due to permit violations.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road).

City-wide Yard Sale

Romulus residents are invited to take part in the annual City-wide Yard Sale, set for Thursday, May 14, through Sunday, May 17. (If two or more of the sale dates are "rained out," the event will be rescheduled for May 28-31.)

To register for a free sale permit – and have your address included in free newspaper advertising for the event – stop in at the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation (located in the Romulus Athletic Center at 35765 Northline) by Wednesday, April 22. Residents registering after the deadline will receive a free permit, but may not be included in any advertisements.

For info, call 734-941-8665. □

Romulus School Board Candidates Address Issues



Keenan Brown



Cheryle Buckley



Lureca Eldridge



April Frayer



Robert McLachlan

To help voters decide whom they will support in the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education election on Tuesday, May 5, *the little paper* distributed a questionnaire to the five candidates vying for the two available seats.

Altogether, the candidates were asked for specific responses to three questions, one of which was deliberately general in format to give everyone a chance to focus on the issues of their choice. Personal data was also solicited to give voters some idea about each candidate's background, experience, and knowledge of/dedication to the District.

The questions were:

1. Given that a candidate's campaign platform is composed of many planks, what *single issue* is your *top priority* as you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education? Why is it so important to you, and what do you plan to do to promote it, if elected?
2. If the Board is forced to address the issue of additional budget cuts in the next four years, in what areas do you believe those cuts should be made? What areas must be protected from cuts at all costs?
3. Do you support the millage proposal on the May 5 ballot? Why or why not?

To avoid the appearance of giving anyone preferential treatment, the responses are arranged alphabetically by last name.

Keenan Brown

Age: 49

Education: Highland Park Community College (associate's degree in social work); Ashland (Ohio) University (bachelor's degree in social work); Wayne State University (attended classes in social work)

Occupation: retired

Military service: none

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work you performed for the District in the past 12 months: 500 hours (2008 recipient of the President's Volunteer Service Award)

Marital status: married to Carmelita Brown

Children (if any): Joshua (age 9), Angela (25), Jason (39), and Carmelita (42)

Number of years as a resident within the school district: six years

Telephone number and/or e-mail address where residents can contact you with questions and concerns: 313-701-8060;

keebrow@peoplepc.com

Campaign Web site: (no response)

QUESTION #1 (top priority)

My top priority as a Board member would be to explore the possibility of partnering with Wayne County Community College District to give Romulus High School students an opportunity to earn an associate's degree while in high school. This program would be cost-effective for the parents and the students, and also would keep our students in line with other school students. Upon graduation from high school, the student would receive a diploma and an associate's degree.

To promote this program, I will talk with the principal at Inkster High School about how that school was granted a two-year college courses program. With this knowledge, the Board can make a presentation to Wayne County Community College District so we can bring the associate's degree program to Romulus High School. My focus is on the best interests of our students.

QUESTION #2 (budget cuts)

Before the Board addresses cuts in any areas, they need to look at the whole school system. Take what's working and improve it. Remove the things that aren't working. We must protect our students' right to learn. "No layoffs." Keep supporting staff members working and teachers teaching in an uncrowded classroom so the students can learn. A quality education gives *all* students – not a certain few – great choices and an opportunity to achieve. I see this as a step toward fewer dropouts. Because, first and last, it's all about the students.

QUESTION #3 (millage)

Supporting the millage by raising business taxes and rental home taxes is a yes-and-no answer. If it will help the schools, I am for it. You can only tax people so much. We must come to a middle ground. High taxes cause hardship on businesses, causing them to move out of Romulus. Renters can't afford to rent, causing less people to move into Romulus.

To have a great school system, we must have a great community, not vacant homes and businesses. We must find other ways to support the schools.

Cheryle A. Buckley (incumbent)

Age: 53

Education: Romulus High School graduate; WCCC & Baker College; Certified Board Member through Michigan Association of School Boards

Occupation: employed by General Motors Corporation for 30 years (Manager of Suggestions & Ergonomics)

Military service: none

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work you performed for the District in the past 12 months: I have volunteered approximately 60 hours in the District and, as a current School Board member, I am very active and visible throughout the District

Marital status: married 31 years to Ronald Buckley

Children (if any): one son – Ronald Buckley, II, a 2003 Romulus High School graduate and 2007 Michigan State University graduate

Number of years as a resident within the school district: 53 years

Telephone number and/or e-mail address where residents can contact you with questions and concerns: 734-941-7025; bccheryle4@aol.com

continued on page 2

Romulus School Board Candidates Address Issues

continued from page 1

CHERYLE A. BUCKLEY (continued)

Campaign Web site:

www.cherylebuckley.weebly.com

QUESTION #1 (top priority)

My top priority is that the students of Romulus will continue to have the support and resources they need to learn in a HEALTHY & SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

With the increased graduation requirements from the State of Michigan – which are, beginning with the class of 2011, (4) credits math, (4) credits English language arts, (3) credits science, (3) credits social studies, (1) credit physical education and health, (1) credit visual, performing, and applied arts, an on-line course experience, and, starting with the class of 2016, (2) credits of world language – it is imperative that our students have the support from our staff and the resources they need to graduate and compete in this furiously demanding world they must face.

We have to face the fact that our students are competing with students globally, not just in the United States. We must continue to align our curriculum from elementary school to high school so our students have every advantage to succeed and continue on to either college or a vocational education school. One element of this would be to offer foreign language at the elementary level. This would give our students a huge advantage when entering middle and high school. We also have to maintain the levels of security in our schools so that our students feel safe in their learning environment.

QUESTION #2 (budget cuts)

Let me preface this question by saying this is a good question and a tough one that caused me to think a long time before I answered. When you speak of budget cuts, there are so many things you need to take into consideration. Just to speak on the issue and be specific is difficult.

I would say that we would have to look at every single line item of our budget, and get input from our administrators and entire staff, to best make these decisions. Having been part of the painful \$5 million budget cuts we recently made, I believe that this is the only way to do it and make it work. I feel it would be irresponsible of me to just arbitrarily say I would cut this or that without input from those who are the experts in what they do.

The areas that would be protected at all costs would be, bottom line, what directly affects the safety of our students and student achievement – technology, textbooks and transportation.

QUESTION #3 (millage)

Yes, I do support the millage proposal. I support this proposal because it would generate over \$300,000 per year that would go directly into the classroom for our students. As a board member, even in these tough economic times, it is my responsibility to put this issue on the ballot to let the residents of Romulus make the ultimate decision.

Lureca T. Eldridge

Age: 48

Education: high school graduate; some college (Henry Ford Community College and Wayne County Community College)

Occupation: nurse CNA

Military service: N/A

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work you performed for the District in the past 12 months: 60 at The Guidance Center (35408 Beverly Road)

Marital status: single

Children (if any): Tiffany (26) and Breanna (6)

Number of years as a resident within the school district: 21 years

Telephone number and/or e-mail address where residents can contact you with questions and concerns: 734-467-6190; eldrid21@msu.edu

Campaign Web site: N/A

QUESTION #1 (top priority)

(A) We must do a better job in making quality preschool programs available to every family, regardless of their income level. It is important to me because some children are already reading while others have not begun to learn the alphabet. Communities are failing to offer their children equal educational opportunities if only some are able to benefit from quality preschool education.

(B) Reducing class sizes.

QUESTION #2 (budget cuts)

(A) Latchkey programs, field trips, some counselors such as social workers, physical therapists, other therapists.

(B) Academic goals and safety must be protected at all times.

QUESTION #3 (millage)

Yes, I support the millage proposal because it will provide additional educational funds for our schools and children.

April Frayer (incumbent)

Age: 35

Education: graduate of Romulus High School (1992); attended Cleary College – studied business management (1992–1994); currently attending Baker College – studying computer IT (2004–present)

Occupation: Computer IT onsite Ford Motor Company – Schenker Inc. (I will celebrate my 10-year anniversary at Schenker on May 17, 2009). I have been in logistics since I graduated high school in 1992

Military service: N/A

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work you performed for the District in the past 12 months: During the roughly 200 hours I have volunteered in the past 12 months, my involvement has included acting as a trip chaperone, judging cheerleading events, and fund-raising for Middle School and High School athletics, field trips, and functions. Additionally, as a Board member,

I spend hours each day taking calls and e-mail contacts from concerned parents, citizens, staff, students, administrators, and other School Board members. I am always willing to help out and take on the responsibility of leadership where and when I can assist the community and the children in this district.

Marital status: divorced

Children (if any): Jordan Frayer (14) and Jeremy Frayer (13)

Number of years as a resident within the school district: lifelong resident -

Telephone number and/or e-mail address where residents can contact you with questions and concerns: 734-740-9232

Campaign Web site: N/A

QUESTION #1 (top priority)

It's hard to select a single issue, as all of them are equally important to myself:

School Budget

I feel that working diligently to keep the school budget balanced is a high priority. I have worked very hard in the past few years, assisting to keep our district's budget balanced. This is very important to myself because if Romulus does not keep a balanced budget, the State could take over our district, and Romulus does not need that.

One of the ways to promote it is to ensure that a budget is created for each department every year, and ensure that the

department budgets are not exceeded.

School of Choice

I do not support school of choice. It is not the answer for Romulus. Romulus schools should educate the children of Romulus. We need to concentrate the resources of the schools on preparing our own children for the future. This is important to me as a mother and as a Board member. As a mother of two children in the District, I think that they should be sitting in class next to students from this community.

I will continue to encourage the Board to reject this proposal.

Technology

Technology is also very important to me since I was elected to office. I have worked to try to get the technology within our schools moved into the homes of the parents, and this year (2008/2009) it was successful. Parent Connect is now available in the high school and middle school. It's important to me to have this rolled out to the elementary schools as well. Parent connect allows the parents to view their child's missing assignments, grades, class schedules, GPA, and even what their child had for lunch that day. This allows parents that have access to computers to stay involved and be aware of their child's progress.

I will continue to stay abreast of new technology and push that Romulus continues to stay current with new technology.

continued on page 3

the little paper

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Phone: 734-941-1907 • Fax: 734-992-2052 • E-mail: thelittlepaper@comcast.net

Business Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

The little paper is published biweekly by Nite-Lite Graphics, P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038.

Nite-Lite Graphics and *the little paper* are owned and operated by Evelyn H. Atkins.

The little paper invites individuals and organizations to submit articles and letters that may be of interest to its readers; however, *the little paper* is not responsible for the content of such material, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. *The little paper* reserves the right to edit any material submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, inaccuracies, misspellings, and grammatical errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of *the little paper*. All letters, commentaries, and other submissions must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although we will make every attempt to do so.

The little paper reserves the right to run special advertising rates for each area covered by its distribution without effect on normal contractual rates.

The little paper will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to residents in its distribution area on a "space available" basis.

While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, *the little paper* is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

NITE-LITE GRAPHICS
(The Late) DAVID A. ATKINS
EVELYN H. ATKINS
KRISTI STEPHENS
PATRICK MEYERS
AMANDA KREUTZER

Publisher
Founder
General Manager
Editor
Director of Advertising Sales
Distribution Manager

© Copyright 2009 Nite-Lite Graphics. All rights reserved.

School Board Candidates Address Issues

continued from page 2

APRIL FRAYER (continued)

Curriculum

We need to prepare our students for this ever-changing global economy, and prepare them to the highest level of education possible. Curriculum is very important to stay on top of and, *if possible, even ahead of.*

I have worked many days and countless nights to ensure the curriculum was designed to meet the needs of the students in this community. I will continue to be aware of the changes, and ensure that the changes are carried out and implemented within our district.

QUESTION #2 (budget cuts)

In the past, one of the ways that the Board was able to make successful budget cuts was to go to each department and get a suggestion list of possible areas they could make cuts within their budget. I feel that this is a good way to start this because it gives each department the ability to make internal decisions based on their everyday experience and needs. Because of department involvement, it makes the transition of the cuts easier and smoother to implement and enforce.

Areas that I personally feel should be protected are special education, bus transportation, and school security.

My goal as a board member is for teachers to be able to teach and students to be able to learn.

QUESTION #3 (millage)

Yes, I support the millage proposal. Every district statewide is partially funded by receiving an 18-mill tax from the non-homestead property. This is a restoration back to the original 18-mill tax that was approved by the residents of Romulus in 1999. We are currently at 17.49, and passing the proposal allows the District to restore the full 18 mills. I support the millage because this is a proposal that was supported by the residents of Romulus in 1999. What the Board is asking for now is a restoration.

Robert W. McLachlan

Age: 44

Education: graduated from Robichaud High School (1982)

Occupation: medical retirement (cardiac related)

Military service: none

Approximate number of hours of volunteer work you performed for the District in the past 12 months: 1,200 (I volunteer Monday through Friday, usually from 7 a.m. until 2 or 3 p.m., assisting in offices, helping teachers with copies, etc. I also worked extensively with the band and coordinated High School Homecoming activities, including the parade and dance.)

continued on page 10

Huron-Clinton Metroparks Recognize Taylor Couple for Volunteer Work

Bernie and Inge Rovenskies of Taylor were among seven area people who were honored with "Volunteer of the Year" awards at the Huron-Clinton Metroparks' 49th Annual HCMA Recognition Dinner, which was held on March 14 at the Indian Springs Metropark Environmental Discovery Center.

The Rovenskies volunteer at Lake Erie Metropark's Marshlands Museum and Nature Center, and are longtime supporters. Besides supplying baked goods and coffee for the monthly Crack O' Dawn Coffee Club walk, the couple – along with their children and grandchildren – helped build the park's eagle enclosure project, including contributing money and shrubbery.

Mike George, Metroparks Chief of Interpretive Services, said that all the honorees have one thing in common.

"Giving freely of their time for the betterment of these beautiful parks, the volunteers share a passion for people, nature and the outdoors," he stated. "Our volunteers are not only our loyal helpers here at the Metroparks; they are also our valued



Inge and Bernie Rovenskies

friends and second family. We celebrate these seven volunteers of the year as well as all of our devoted volunteers for their commitment, generosity, expertise, and extraordinary attitudes."

Volunteer opportunities are still available at the parks. Anyone interested in volunteering on a onetime project or on an ongoing basis should call the Metroparks Administrative Office at 800-47-PARKS.

Guest Commentary

It's Time To Cast Your Vote and Support the Romulus Community Schools

By Carl J. Weiss, Superintendent, Romulus Community Schools

Next month, Romulus community residents will have the opportunity to select two individuals to serve on our Board of Education, and also to approve the restoration of the non-homestead tax that helps to support our school district. **Approval of the non-homestead millage proposal will not raise the taxes of Romulus homeowners.**

All school districts in the State of Michigan are funded in part by an 18-mill tax that is levied only on non-homestead property (i.e., businesses, apartments, rental property, and other non-residential properties). Romulus voters approved this non-homestead tax in 1999 at the rate of 18 mills (\$18 per \$1,000 of non-homestead taxable property value) due to the Headlee Amendment; however, the non-homestead tax is periodically reduced as property values increase. Here in Romulus, the non-homestead tax has been reduced from its original 18 mills to 17.49 mills. The State does not make up the financial shortfall to schools that results from this reduction. The only way that school districts can recover the lost revenue is to ask voter approval to restore the non-homestead millage back to its original 18 mills. Nearly every community in our area is currently assessing the full 18 mills on local businesses. This ballot proposal, if approved, will restore the Romulus non-homestead tax back to the

18 mills that was already approved by our voters. **Homeowners do not pay this tax.** Approval of this proposal will result in approximately \$446,000 of additional revenue per year to the Romulus Community Schools. **This proposal will not increase the amount of taxes to Romulus homeowners.**

Although the State and our community are experiencing financial challenges, we must not forget that the heart of every community is its public school system. The Romulus school district depends on our residents to provide financial stability by approving millage renewals periodically. Furthermore, our board of education is committed to maintaining our school district at a level that will prepare our children for a promising future without increasing taxes to our residents. This proposal is tax neutral for homeowners; thus, **your property taxes will not go up if the proposal is approved, and will not go down if it is not approved.**

As superintendent of schools, I urge you to vote "yes" on this important proposal. Please remember: **This will not increase your taxes.** Thank you for supporting our schools.

Anyone interested in obtaining additional information regarding the ballot proposals may stop by our administrative office at 36540 Grant Road to obtain a question-and-answer brochure, or contact us directly at 734-532-1600. □

**Vote May 5th
to Elect
KEENAN J.
BROWN
Trustee
Romulus School Board**



QUALIFIED:

- Graduated Highland Park Community College
- Graduated Ashland University (Ohio)
- Attended Wayne State University
- Worked with children and adults in mental health field for 30 years
- Worked for Michigan Superior Court for foster care review
- Married with four children; one attends Cory Elementary School

I PLEDGE:

- To expand educational opportunities for Romulus children
- To encourage more sports activities in schools for better health
- To improve test scores and stem the dropout rate
- To explore the possibility of partnering with Wayne County Community College District in order to give high school students an opportunity to receive an associate's degree while in high school
- To work with financial institutions to teach financial literacy

AFFILIATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- Romulus Community of Parents Who Care
- Cory Elementary School PTC (Treasurer)
- Lunch dad and volunteer (12-16 hrs. weekly) at Cory Elementary School
- Romulus Pumpkin Festival (Board Member)
- Goodfellows of Detroit

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT KEENAN J. BROWN

Taylor Remembers American Heroes

The City of Taylor's annual Veterans Memorial Day remembrance will mark the grand opening of the Taylor American Warriors Museum inside City Hall. The annual tribute to veterans – both living and deceased – is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, May 16, at the Veterans Memorial Garden in Cameron G. Priebe Plaza just east of City Hall in front of the Police Station.

May 16 is National Armed Forces Day, which is two Saturdays before Memorial Day. The city's "day to remember" will feature speeches by dignitaries, patriotic music, the presentation of colors and memorial wreaths, members of all branches of the military, various military vehicles, and re-enactors from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and other conflicts.

After the ceremony, the public will be invited to view the armed forces museum, a tribute to members of the military. The museum, located in a room in the City Hall atrium, has been a dream of Councilman Butch Ramik, who served the United States as an Army drill sergeant and paratrooper, served in the Republic of Vietnam, and earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

The museum will feature a variety of stories, photos, uniforms, equipment, artifacts, and memorabilia of armed forces veterans past and present from Taylor and beyond. Ramik, members of veterans organizations, and other volunteers have been collecting the items for months. Special storage cabinets will display the artifacts.

"This museum is for the armed forces



Butch Ramik

– for the people who served this country," Ramik said. "It is a tribute to those who allow democracy to exist. It will be something that makes people proud."

Ramik has invited many dignitaries to attend the museum dedication. U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow are among those expected to attend. A special recognition will be paid to U.S. Representative John D. Dingell, an Army veteran and the longest-serving member in the history of the U.S. Congress.

Fund-raisers, grants, and sponsorships help fund the museum. To learn about sponsorship opportunities or to donate artifacts, contact Ramik at 734-341-1817. □



These armed forces artifacts will be among the items displayed at the new museum.

HIGGERSON & NEAL

Funeral Home

Roberts Brothers Chapel • 734-697-9400

209 W. Main St. • Belleville, MI 48111

James L. Higgeson, Manager

**Professional, Affordable
Full Service Funeral Home**

See our Price List on our Web site

www.hnfhhome.com



Serving Romulus and Surrounding Communities with Pride

TOP \$\$\$\$ PAID

for

Junk, Disabled, or Wrecked Cars

*Drive it in
or
we'll pick it up!*

CTS AUTO PARTS

16007 Pardee • Taylor
(Just North of Wm. F. Sell)

(734) 282-1700

Low-Cost Pet Wellness Vaccination Clinic

Friday, April 24th
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
at

FLUFF-N-PUFF - PET GROOMING -

36628 Goddard
Downtown Romulus
734-229-0005

We understand tough times and we're here to help! Can't get time off from work to make an appointment at the vet? Don't want to pay for an office visit? Check us out! Low prices, good people, and fast service!

CASH or CHECK (with valid ID) ONLY - NO debit or credit!

Vet: Dr. John Hermann
(313) 686-5701

Scooby's

HAMBURGER \$3.99
with FRIES

\$5.00 Off

Bill Totaling \$25.00 or More
With Coupon - Expires 05/15/09

- OPEN 24 HOURS -

5006 S. Wayne Road
Wayne, MI 48184

734-728-5555

Dave's & Company

- Full Service -

Barber Shop & Hair Salon

- Creative Perming •
- Haircoloring • Paneling
- Highlights & Lowlights •

37148 Goddard Road
Romulus, MI 48174

734-941-0123

Romulus Councilman Recognized for Service

Romulus Councilman John Barden has received the Arc Detroit Spirit of Service Award in recognition of exceptional achievement, outstanding leadership, and dedication to improving the quality of life of persons with developmental disabilities.

Barden received the award for his service as a Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency Board member, a position to which he was appointed by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano.

According to Barden, the agency was established to protect the rights of Wayne County's mental health community, which consists of approximately 57,000 adults and children with mental illnesses, emotional disturbances, developmental disabilities, and/or substance-abuse disorders.



Councilman John Barden

"We make sure that people get what they need in the line of medications and care," he explained. □

Romulus Chamber of Commerce Honors Willis As Person of the Year

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce held an award dinner at the Romulus Athletic Center on April 3 to recognize its 24th Person of the Year, Reverend Arthur Willis.

The 18-year pastor of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church was selected for

the honor due to his longtime service to the Romulus community, which included support of the Boys & Girls Clubs, the Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center, the Mayor's Drug Task Force, and the Pumpkin Festival Committee, as well as his work with the Romulus Ministerial Association.



Family members who accompanied Reverend Arthur Willis (third from left) to the awards dinner included (from left) Natasha Willis, niece; Rose Houston, sister; Janice Willis, spouse; Cindy Willis, sister; Stephanie Balkam, daughter; Leonard Curry, father-in-law; and Katrice Willis, niece. Photo by R. E. Kadam

Huron School District "Completely Committed to Kids" Announces Limited "School of Choice" Openings "Great Kids, Great Families, Great Schools"

Section 105 (Wayne County Residents Only)

Sunnyside Kindergarten Center

Brown Elementary School

1st Grade	4 Vacancies
2nd Grade	1 Vacancy
3rd Grade	1 Vacancy
4th Grade	10 Vacancies

Miller Elementary School

1st Grade	1 Vacancy
2nd Grade	6 Vacancies
3rd Grade	1 Vacancy
4th Grade	10 Vacancies

Renton Junior High

6th Grade	8 Vacancies
7th Grade	3 Vacancies
8th Grade	1 Vacancy

Huron High School

9th Grade	15 Vacancies
10th Grade	10 Vacancies
11th Grade	5 Vacancies
12th Grade	15 Vacancies



Applications are available at the
Huron School District Administration Building.

Applications will only be accepted between the dates listed below:
from May 4, 2009 through May 22, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston, MI 48164

For more information, please call 734-782-2441,
or visit our Web site at www.huronschools.com

Children's & Youth Ministries

CALVARY
Church

Wednesday

6:30 pm Kids Connection K-5

6:30 pm The Bridge 6-8

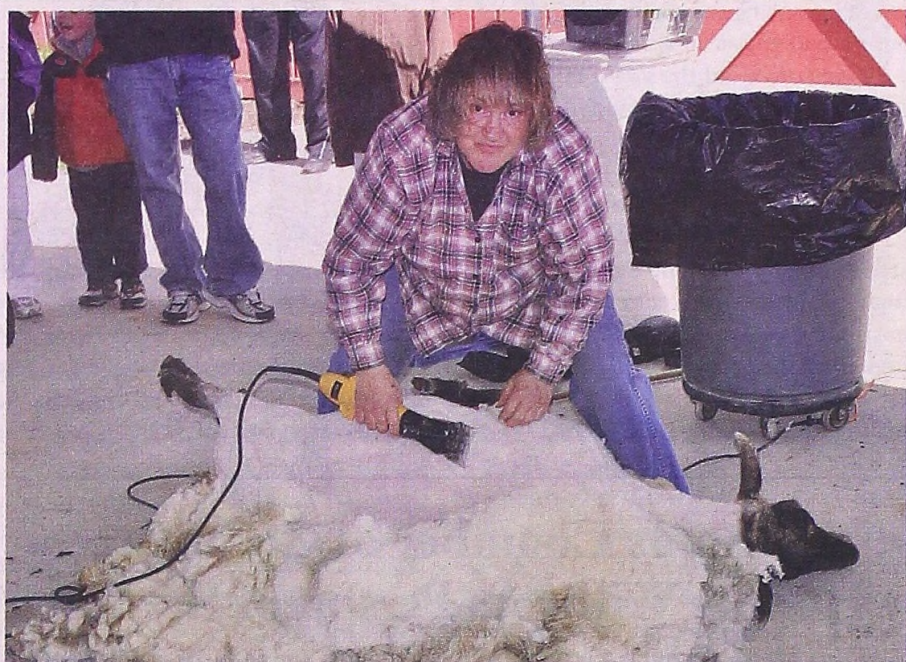
Thursday

6:45 pm The Edge 7-12

11338 Ozga Road Romulus 734.941.0236

WWW.CALVARYROMULUS.ORG

Taylor Celebrates Spring



Deb Caryl, a third-generation sheep farmer, demonstrated her shearing skills during the Celebrate Spring event held April 4 at Heritage Park Petting Farm ...

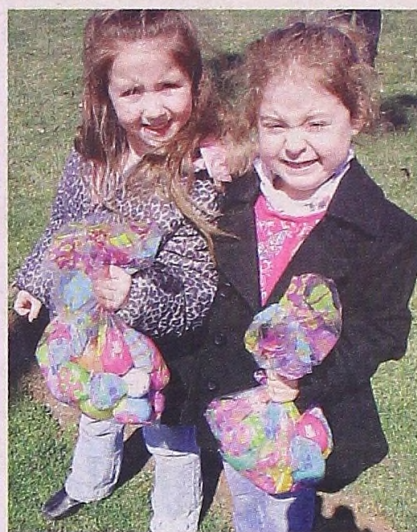


... as an enthralled audience looked on. The event also featured demonstrations on using a spinning wheel, dyeing wool, and preparing clothing from the wool, as well as face-painting, crafts, and light refreshments.

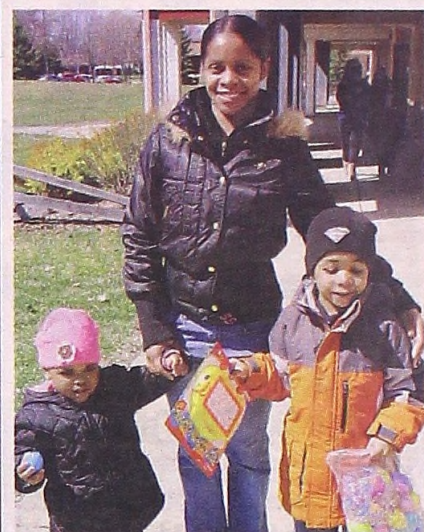


Leaning against his John Deere tractor during a well-deserved break was Stan Kloc of Taylor, who – along with other members of the Tri-County Two Cylinder Tractor Club – displayed their antique tractors and gave kids rides. *Photos by Dave Gorgon*

Egg-citing Egg Hunts



Five-year-olds Adrienna Balmosela and Madison Hittinger of Taylor held tightly to the Easter eggs they gathered at the City of Taylor's annual hunt, held at Heritage Park on April 4. *Photo by Kathleen Trent*



Stephanie Monroe of Taylor and her children, Brianna (age one) and London (six), also took part in the Heritage Park hunt. London found a winning egg and redeemed it for a prize. *Photo by Kathleen Trent*



The annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the City of Romulus drew a big crowd to Senior Citizens Park on April 11. *Photo by R. E. Kadau*



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert (second from right) thanked Dave Martin (right) of Prime Time Wrestling, who – along with the National Heritage Academy – donated monies for all of the baskets that were distributed at the Easter Egg Hunt. *Photo by R. E. Kadau*

POINTS
AUTO REPAIR L.L.C.
 COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
 734-992-3943

GRAND OPENING!
 ASE

COOLANT FLUSH
\$49.95 plus coolant

BRAKE SERVICE
 starting at **\$79.95**

TUNE-UP
 starting at **\$49.95**

OIL CHANGE
\$18.99 plus disposal

SYN. OIL CHANGE
\$51.99 plus disposal

FREE TOWING w/Major Repair

FREE PICK UP
 & DROP OFF SERVICE

ASE CERTIFIED MECHANICS

12003 Huron River Drive, Romulus
 Next to Captain Nemo's

Good Food!
Good Atmosphere!



Complete Menu

**Ask About Our
 Daily Lunch and
 Dinner Specials**

DINE IN or CARRY OUT

Monday - Friday
 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
 Saturday & Sunday
 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Located inside the
DAYS INN HOTEL
 9501 Middlebelt • Romulus
 734-946-4300

ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS

Healthy Paws
Veterinary Hospital

734-697-1400

10657 Belleville Rd, Belleville

Located in the Belleville Print Plaza

Just North of I-94, Across from McDonald's

Call for an appointment



15% DISCOUNT ON ALL VETERINARY SERVICES
25% DISCOUNT ON SURGICAL PROCEDURES

New Clients Only - Expires 5-31-09

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

RJ Perry
 CARPENTRY, INC.
CONSTRUCTION

734-941-1500

36015 Goddard • Romulus, MI 48174

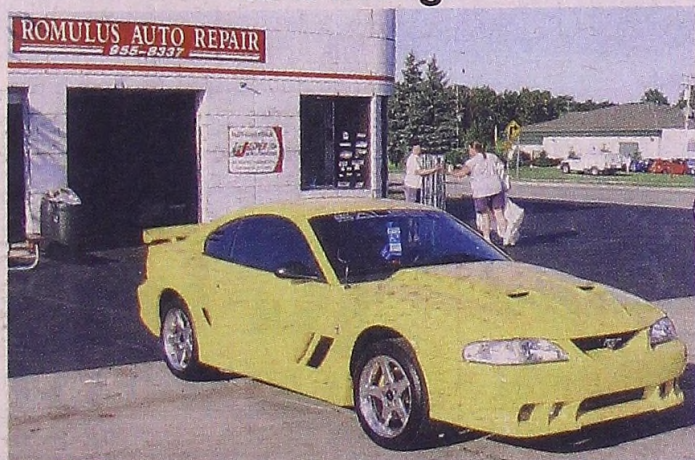
www.rjperry.com

- Office Remodels
- Additions
- Sunrooms
- Windows / Doors
- Kitchen & Bath Remodels
- Decks & Ramps
- Licensed & Insured
- Established in 1980

ROMULUS AUTO REPAIR

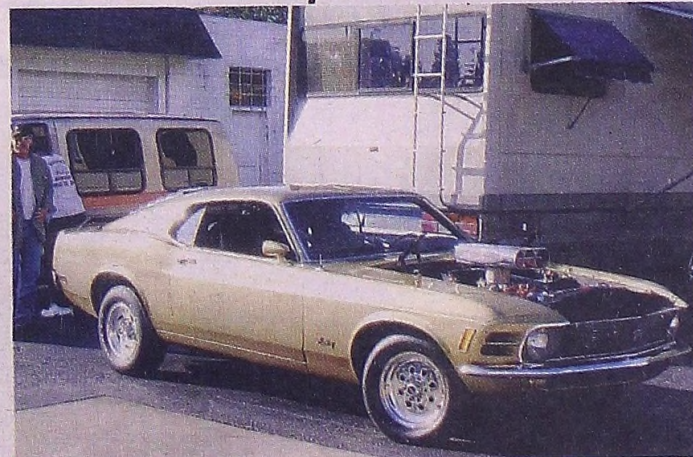
36110 Goddard • Romulus **734-955-8337** Cell: 734-365-4028

Working on cars and trucks
 is a living.



**MAJOR & MINOR
 REPAIR**
ANY YEAR & MAKE
**MECHANICAL
 RESTORATIONS**
STOCK
**STREET
 PERFORMANCE**
AND RACING

Working on *old* cars and trucks
 is a *passion*.



**10% Discount
 to UAW
 Members
 with Badge**

Open 8 am - 5 pm
 Monday thru Friday



**10% Discount
 on Anything
 Older than
 1975**



Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to 734-992-2052; or e-mail it to thelittlepaper@comcast.net no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, April 24.

Belleville

Book Signing

Author Beverly Jenkins will be at Main Street Flowers (210 Main Street) from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, to sign copies of her latest book, *Bring on the Blessings* – a work of faith-based women's fiction. Jenkins, known for her historical romance novels highlighting African-American life in the 19th century, has earned numerous awards, including the Golden Pen from the Black Writers Guild.

For information, call 734-697-7400.

"Thunder Rolls" Honors Veterans

Brown Funeral Home and Brown Family Center will sponsor "Thunder Rolls in Belleville" – a Memorial Day celebration that will pay tribute to veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives to protect our nation – on Monday, May 25. The program will begin with a police-escorted motorcycle cavalcade that will run from Wayne County Community College's Western Campus (Haggerty Road just north of I-94) to the Veterans Memorial in Horizon Park (High Street just east of Main Street). Registration and lineup will start at 11 a.m. in the college's front parking lot. All riders are welcome. Proceeds from the \$10-per-person registration fee will be used to help local veterans and their families through the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Afterward, the public is invited to join local veterans for a memorial service to be held at Horizon Park at about 2 p.m.

For information, call 734-697-5090 or e-mail browngriefcenter@yahoo.com.

Huron Township

St. Paul's Church Plans Flea Market

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (18109 Craig Street) will hold a Spring Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, April 30, through Saturday, May 2. Antiques, collectibles, and furniture will be featured.

For information, call 734-753-9048.

Nursery Registration

Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery is accepting enrollment for its 2009–2010 three- and four-year-old classes.

The nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization – located in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street) – focuses on kindergarten readiness and social development, and offers art, music, exercise, and field trips.

For information, call 734-299-3036.

Romulus

Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Romulus Public Library will hold its semiannual Used Book Sale at the Library (11121 Wayne Road) April 20–22 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and April 25 from 12 to 5 p.m.

Monday through Wednesday, shoppers will find adult hardcovers for \$1.50, adult paperbacks for \$.50 to \$1, children's hardcovers for \$.50, children's paperbacks for \$.25, and most DVDs/videos/CDs/records for \$1.

Saturday, aka "Bag Day," will feature even bigger deals. Shoppers can fill a sack with books for just \$2.25.

For information, call 734-942-7589.

Mom-2-Mom Sale

Shop for gently used children's items at a Mom-2-Mom Sale being hosted by the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation at the Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aisles will be wide enough for strollers, so bring your little ones with you!

Tables (10'x8' space with table) are available for \$25. Space is limited, so early registration is recommended.

For information, call the Recreation Department: 734-941-8665.

CUMC Plans Flea Market

The Community United Methodist Church of Romulus is inviting the public to attend its upcoming flea market, to be held at the church (11160 Olive Street) on Friday, May 15, and Saturday, May 16. Times will be announced in the next issue of *the little paper*.

For information, call 734-941-0736.

Cox To Speak at Chamber's Business Luncheon

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce's next business luncheon will be held at the Crowne Plaza (8000 Merriman Road) on Tuesday, May 19, at 12 p.m.

Guest Speaker for the event will be State Attorney General Mike Cox, who will discuss how the AG's Office impacts business in Michigan, and will also administer the "Oath of Office" to the Chamber's newly elected officers and directors.

Tickets are \$15 for Chamber members, \$18 for nonmembers. Register by Friday, May 15. Seating is limited, so early registration is recommended.

For information, call 734-893-0694 or e-mail info@romuluschamber.com.

Golf Outing Benefits Boys & Girls Clubs

A scramble-format golf tournament to benefit the Romulus and Belleville Boys & Girls Clubs will be held at Inkster Valley Golf Course (2150 Middlebelt Road) on Thursday, May 21, starting at 9 a.m.

A cost of \$100 per individual covers 18 holes of golf with cart, lunch, dinner, and prize opportunities. A \$500 foursome rate includes all of the above plus a hole sponsor sign! Hole sponsorships are \$125.

Register by Friday, May 7.

For information, call 734-941-5839 or visit jcovell@bgcsm.org.

Horseshoe Club Seeks Players

The Romulus Horseshoe Club is looking for players on Tuesday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. at Elmer Johnson Park (Ozga Road south of Wick Road) to pitch in a 12-week league starting in May.

For information, contact Mark at 313-562-3272 or 313-682-3600.

Men's Sunday Softball League Forming

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation is currently forming a Men's Sunday Softball USSSA "D" League. Up to eight teams will be accepted for games to be played at Elmer Johnson Park (Ozga Road south of Wick Road). Both residents and nonresidents are welcome to participate.

A cost of \$500 per team is due by Monday, May 4.

For information, call the Recreation Office at 734-941-8665.

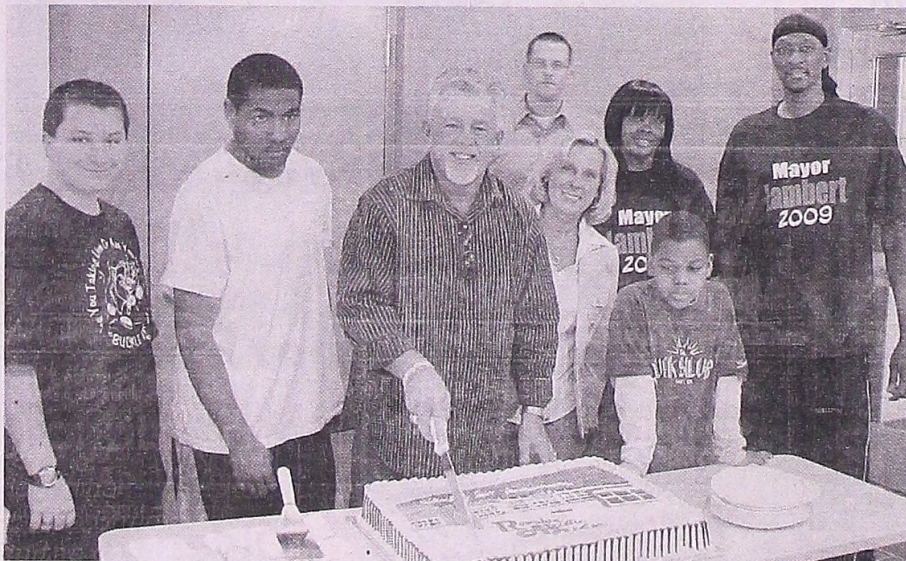
Taylor

Taylor Teen Bands Do "Battle"

Mayor Cameron G. Priebe's Youth Advisory Council is sponsoring its annual "Battle of the Bands" program at the Heritage Park Activity Building (12111 Pardee Road) on Friday, April 24, from 6 p.m. to midnight.

Admission for spectators is \$5.

Athletic Center Celebrates First Year



Mayor Alan R. Lambert did the cake-cutting honors when the Romulus Athletic Center celebrated its first birthday on April 4. In recognition of the milestone, the RAC opened its doors to the public for four hours of free classes, screenings, and demonstrations, as well as use of the facilities. Photo by Marci Shannon

Countrywood Florist
A full-service florist

Administrative Professionals Day
Wednesday, April 22nd

www.dianesbloomers.com

Mon. – Fri., 9 to 6; Sat., 9 to 4

36724 Goddard Road
Downtown Romulus

734-229-1100

Beirut RESTAURANT

THE BEST . . . OF THE BEST

Middle Eastern, American,
Mixed Grill & Much More
– BANQUETS & CATERING –

Try Our Sandwiches, Shawarma,
Fresh Salad, & Juice
Open 7 Days



www.beirutrestaurant.net



7650 Merriman • Romulus
734-326-1000



~ Crane ~

FUNERAL HOME

WILLIAM A. CRANE

36885 GODDARD ROAD
ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174
PHONE 734-941-9200

COMPLETE LINE OF
MARKERS AND MONUMENTS

MURRAY A. DUNCAN, JR. ATTORNEY AT LAW

- Bankruptcy • Drunk Driving •
- Real Estate • Divorce •
- Personal Injury •
- Workman's Compensation •

— ANY LEGAL MATTER —

10000 South Wayne Road
Romulus, Michigan 48174

941-5025

Brown Supports Kidney Group in D.C.



Keenan Brown (second from left) of Romulus shared his story in D.C.

Keenan Brown of Romulus spent World Kidney Day (March 12) on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., joining other members of the National Kidney Foundation's People Like Us to share his health story with lawmakers. The group – including members pictured at left – is made up of people from across the United States who serve as advocates for kidney patients.

Despite being diagnosed with high blood pressure, congenital heart failure, diabetes, and chronic kidney disease, Brown leads a full life. The 49-year-old dialysis patient is a record-setting martial artist and does volunteer work at Cory Elementary, where his youngest son, Joshua, attends school.

Accompanying Brown on his trip were his wife Carmelita, Joshua, and Brown's grandson Jason. □

FLUFF-N-PUFF

— PET GROOMING —

36628 Goddard
Downtown Romulus
734-229-0005

Where You Are
PAWS-IT-IVLEY
SPECIAL TO US!
We Thank You!



We Groom Cats too!
Call and Make Your Kitty
an Appointment Today

Belleville Transmission & Auto Service

Over 35 Years of Service

537-541 E. Huron River Drive
Belleville, MI 48111



734-699-7422

Fax: 734-699-7080

**GOD BLESS
THE U.S.A.**

RHS Announces Dates for Prom, Graduation

Linda Poirier, assistant principal at Romulus High School, has compiled the following list of special events to update seniors and their parents.

For more information, call Poirier at 734-532-1014.

- **Senior Final Exams**
(Thursday, May 28, during 4th and 5th hours; seniors attend from 10:59 a.m. to 2 p.m.; regular school day for underclassmen)
- **Senior Final Exams**
(Friday, May 29, during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd hours; seniors attend from 7:15 to 10:59 a.m.; regular school day for underclassmen)
- **Senior All-night Party**
(Friday, May 29, with lock-in from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.; RHS field house)

- **Prom Toast**
(Wednesday, June 3, from 6 to 7 p.m.; RHS atrium)

- **Senior Prom**
(Wednesday, June 3, from 7:30 p.m. to midnight; "Burton Manor")

- **Commencement**
(Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. sharp to 11 a.m.; RHS field house)

Poirier asks parents to note that admission to commencement will be *by ticket only*. Tickets will be distributed to seniors during graduation rehearsal. All guests attending commencement are to be seated *no later than 9:30 a.m.*

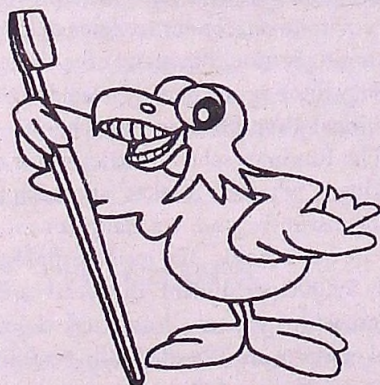
A professional photographer will be taking pictures of each graduate, and the ceremony will be videotaped. Photos and tapes will be available for purchase. □

ROMULUS FAMILY DENTAL, P.C.

Rhonda J. Hennessy, D.D.S.

New Patients Welcome

- Air Abrasion
- Nitrous Oxide
- Reasonable Fees
- All Phases of Dentistry
- Emergency Treatment
- Day, Evening, & Saturday Appointments



37235 Goddard • Romulus, MI
Near Five-Points Intersection
734-941-0343

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

ATTENTION: FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT COMPANIES

The Romulus Community School District is requesting proposals for school food service management services. The Food Service Management Company will provide management services according to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations and guidelines as well as State of Michigan Department of Education policies and guidelines.

Food Service Management Companies and/or their representatives may submit proposals to:

Romulus Community Schools
36540 Grant Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

The Romulus Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the school district.

A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at 36540 Grant Rd., Romulus, MI 48174.

All proposals must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. on May 12, 2009. All proposals should be delivered in a sealed envelope and addressed to the Romulus Community Schools and be clearly marked: Food Service Management Proposal.

Sassy Seniors

For information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate center.

Romulus

36525 Bibbins • 734-955-4120

Craft Show

Romulus seniors who would like to take part in the Center's upcoming craft show – set for Thursday, April 23 – may purchase table space for just \$5.

Space is limited; sign up now.

Classes

Call for more information about these upcoming classes, which require advance sign-up.

- scrapbooking (Tuesday, April 21, at 5 p.m.), and
- crochet (Wednesday, April 22, at 11 a.m.).

Lunch with Bob

Seniors are invited to come and enjoy lunch on Wayne County when CEO Robert Ficano comes to the Center at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 11, to listen to seniors' concerns and answer questions related to County government and programs.

Although the program is free, advance registration is required.

Lunch Out

The Romulus Senior Center's next "lunch out" destination will be Romulus House (Thursday, April 23, 11 a.m.).

Transportation is free. Advance registration is required.

Casino Trips

If you're feeling lucky, you won't want to miss these upcoming trips:

- **Windsor Raceway Slots** (Tuesday, April 28; \$15),
- **Seneca/Niagara Falls** (Saturday, May 2, through Sunday, May 3; \$135), and
- **Windsor Raceway Slots** (Wednesday, May 13; \$15).

Advance registration is required.

Regular Programs

Free or low-cost weekly programs offered by the Romulus Senior Center include:

- bingo (Mondays/Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- fun night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- game day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.),
- quilting (Thursdays, 6 p.m.), and
- walking club (Fridays, 11 a.m., at the Romulus Athletic Center).

ARE YOU HUNGRY?

Wayne County's Nutrition Program feeds thousands of senior citizens (age 60+) via the Meals on Wheels program for the homebound and the congregate meals program offered each weekday at sites like the Romulus Senior Center.

DON'T GO HUNGRY.

Meals are **FREE** for those who qualify. For more information, call:

1-800-851-1454

Taylor

6750 Troy • 313-291-7740

Volunteers Wanted!

The Ford Senior Center is looking for volunteers interested in helping with various garden chores and/or drawing up a "blueprint" of the Center's garden areas.

Call for more information on how you can put your green thumb to good use.

"Friends of the Ford Senior Center" Now Forming

The newly founded Friends of the Ford Senior Center – a group dedicated to promoting information about, and participation in, Ford Senior Center programs – is conducting its first membership drive. The group is open to anyone of any age, resident or nonresident. Dues are \$1 per month, paid yearly.

For more information, speak to Senior Center director Marsha Dotson.

"Tea Socials"

Local seniors are invited to come to the Center each Wednesday at 1 p.m. for board games, cards, or just to socialize.

New faces are welcome!

Watercolor Workshops

A drop-in Watercolor Workshop is held at the Center each Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cost per class is \$7 plus supplies (bring your own or pay an extra \$1.50).

Birthday Bash

If you were born in April, and are 55 or older, come out to the Center's next Birthday Bash, set for Thursday, April 30, from 1 to 3 p.m. Cake, ice cream, and karaoke will be among the attractions.

There's no charge to attend; simply preregister by Monday, April 27. No children, please.

"An Afternoon at the Movies"

Enjoy a gourmet buffet and dessert, then check out the hot new Clive Owen/Julia Roberts thriller titled *Duplicity* (with free popcorn and beverages), on Tuesday, April 21. Bus departs from the Center at 10:15 a.m. and returns at about 4 p.m.

A cost of \$18.75 includes transportation, lunch, and admission. Advance registration is required.

Thoroughly Modern Millie

The Senior Center is planning a trip to Davidson Middle School to see the Southgate Community Players' production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. The bus will depart at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, May 1, and return at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Cost is \$15 plus dinner at Culver's. Advance registration is required.

Motor City Casino

If you love to gamble, but hate the hassles of traffic and parking, this trip to Motor City Casino is for you! A chartered bus will depart from the Ford Senior Center at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, and return at approximately 4 p.m.

A cost of just \$10 includes transportation plus a \$15 voucher good for food or money. Space is limited; sign up early! □

Wii Challenge Promotes Senior Fitness



Mayor Alan R. Lambert's Wii Bowling Challenge at the Romulus Senior Center on April 14 drew more than 20 players eager for competition. Among the day's winners was Katie McCraight (right), who beat the (figurative bowling shoes and) socks off the Mayor. Avid onlookers included Thelma Matthews (left) and Willie Edwards. Photo by R. E. Kadan

School Board Candidates Address Issues

continued from page 3

ROBERT W. McLACHLAN (continued)

Marital status: married 21 years to

Theresa

Children (if any): Jonathan, 19 (RHS valedictorian, 2006), and Ryan, 17 (RHS Class of 2010)

Number of years as a resident within the school district: nearly 16

Telephone number and/or e-mail address where residents can contact you with questions and concerns: 734-941-3829;

mclachlan917@comcast.net

Campaign Web site:

www.rmclachlan.com

QUESTION #1 (top priority)

My number-one priority is to provide a safe environment for our students to learn in. It is my position that many other issues, especially funding, are directly related to the educational atmosphere in our schools.

The Romulus school district seems to be taking a "whatever it takes" approach to keeping disruptive and, yes, dangerous students in our schools. We receive approximately \$9,000 per student. In several cases, students with weapons, drugs, and violent school episodes are "conditionally readmitted" to the district, if they are ever removed in the first place. This creates an unsafe situation, and I feel causes some to remove their children from our buildings to attend other districts or charter schools that they believe are safer. Again, I feel we are losing more enrollment (funding) than what we are "saving" by keeping students who are not here to learn.

To promote safer schools, I would advocate that we must, as a community, enforce the behavior standards that we have,

uniformly and consistently, and remove those students who do not follow the Student Code of Conduct. I would strive to make sure that the Board of Education, administration, and staff were committed to a zero-tolerance policy for violent and/or illegal behavior.

QUESTION #2 (budget cuts)

I do believe that the Board will be faced with additional cost-saving measures in the near future. As we are all painfully aware, property values have plummeted, and, as a result, tax revenue will shrink. Additionally, the "Hold Harmless" millage the District levies will expire in two years, and, unless voters approve its renewal, there will be financial havoc to contend with. I believe we must begin to plan for the renewal of that millage, but certainly not an increase. Long-range fiscal planning must begin now to avoid impacting the classroom.

With that said, there are several areas where I believe we can save some dollars:

- Place up for competitive bids our auditing service. We can save thousands of dollars here, and I still have not received any reasonable explanation as to why Romulus Community Schools refuses to bid this service out. The auditors that we use have *no other school district clients*. With the myriad issues facing school districts from State and Federal sources, I would submit that we would want a firm with more experience. We have had the same firm for at least the last 15 years. Why won't they bid it out?
- Place up for competitive bids our legal representation. Again, there is large potential to save money in this area.

continued on page 11

Obituaries

Cecil M. Burkhalter, Jr.



Cecil M. Burkhalter, Jr.

Cecil M. Burkhalter, Jr., of Romulus,

Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at the age of 49.

The son of the late Cecil M. Sr. and Joann Burkhalter was born in Macon, Georgia, on Saturday, February 27, 1960.

Cecil was a carpenter by trade. He enjoyed family get-togethers and vacations, and also loved mowing his lawn.

Surviving Cecil are his companion of 21 years, Cynthia Kind; 4 sons, Josh Cherry (Macon), Justin M. Burkhalter (Romulus), Jacob Burkhalter (Romulus), and Jarrett Burkhalter (Romulus); a daughter, Jordyn S. Burkhalter (Romulus); and 2 brothers, Tommy Burkhalter (Macon) and Scott (Rita) Burkhalter (Romulus).

He is also survived by his close friends, Joe Turner, Vinnie Varela, and many others.

He will be greatly missed.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, March 21, at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home (Flat Rock).

Marvin J. Zilka

Marvin J. Zilka of Prescott, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, April 11, 2009, at the age of 76.

The son of the late Max Sr. and Emma (Opificius) Zilka was born in Romulus, Michigan, on Monday, June 27, 1932.

Marvin enjoyed hunting, raising rabbits, dogs, cats, gardening, and John Deere. Most important to him was his family.

Surviving Marvin are 2 sons, Dale (Nancy) Zilka (Wayne, MI) and Dean Zilka (Canton, MI); 2 daughters, Linda (Ken

Schroeder (Canton) and Cheryl "Sherry" Zilka (Wayne); 7 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren (with 1 on the way); and a brother, Melvin Zilka (Romulus).

Among those who preceded him in passing was his brother, Max Zilka, Jr.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). Cremation rites will be accorded.

Memorial contributions to Animal Rescue would be greatly appreciated.

As part of our continuing commitment to community service, *the little paper* publishes obituaries and personal notices, free of charge, for residents of Romulus, Taylor, Belleville, and Huron Township. For more information, please contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at 734-941-1907 or thelittlepaper@comcast.net.

Mozelle Montgomery

Mozelle Montgomery of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2009 at the age of 88.

The native of Greenway, Arkansas, was born on Thursday, November 4, 1920.

Mozelle loved gardening, bingo, traveling, and going to casinos. Her greatest joy was her family.

Surviving Mozelle are 3 sons, Frederick H. (Marty) Montgomery (Spring Hill, FL), Dwight H. (Sharon) Montgomery (Waverly, TN), and Wiley "Duane" (Cassandra) Montgomery (Romulus); 3 daughters, Wyvonna Bujor (Garden City, MI), Mozella Markham (Romulus), and Perna (James) Brown (New Boston, MI); 22 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and 2 sisters, Earline (James H.)

McMurty (Knoxville, TN) and Mary Wright (Holly, MI).

Among those who preceded her in passing were her husband, D.L. Hale Montgomery; a son, J. Douglas Montgomery; 2 daughters, Gwendolyn Ciccarella and Paulea Montgomery; 2 brothers, Paul F. and James E. Goodman; and a sister, Geraldine Madary.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, April 8, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor John Warnshuis (Hospice of Michigan) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial contributions to the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund would be greatly appreciated by the Montgomery family.

Alwin F. "Ollie" Wittrock

Alwin F. "Ollie" Wittrock of Riverview, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at the age of 87.

The son of the late Albert and Frieda (Beerman) Wittrock was born in Pipestone, Minnesota, on Tuesday, October 18, 1921.

Ollie was a U.S. Army veteran who served during World War II. His many interests included truck driving, fishing, hunting, playing cards, dancing, telling jokes, and reading and watching Western stories. He especially loved spending time with his family.

Surviving Ollie are his wife, Gene O. (Dickey) Wittrock; 2 daughters, Judy (Dave

Gipps) Wittrock (Belleville, MI) and Patty (Jeff) Hamm (New Boston, MI); and 3 grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased him were 4 brothers, Marvin, Edwin, Leslie, and Duane Wittrock; and 3 sisters, Norma Veen, Alma Hubner, and Velma Haack.

A funeral service was held on Friday, April 3, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with the Reverend D. Lee Cullen, Jr. (pastor, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, New Boston) officiating. Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family for later designation.

School Board Candidates Address Issues

continued from page 10

ROBERT W. McLACHLAN (*continued*)

- Place other professional services (consultants, architects, etc.) out for bid. Simply choosing a firm because of past practice is not the most cost-effective.
- Reduce administrative costs. Personnel and curriculum departments could be combined, or assigned to the Superintendent. Given the condition of the economy, I would not be opposed to asking the Superintendent to take a reduction in pay. (In the summer of 2008, the Board increased the salary of the Superintendent to \$157,399.13. In addition, the contract provides up to \$7,000 per year in transportation expenses – the Superintendent receives two tanks of gasoline per week.) When many taxpayers are faced with pay freezes or cuts to avoid outright job loss, it seems very irresponsible to have increased the terms of the contract, especially when there was still a year remaining on the original contract.

As for "off limits" cuts, I would say that increasing class sizes is not an option. I would not support any measure to increase class sizes. Given the amount of additional record-keeping and reporting required by State and Federal legislation, I would not support reduction of building-level clerical assistance. Our buildings have been on "emergency" cleaning schedules now for about three years. Certainly, reductions there can't be made – if anything, we need to find ways to increase staffing, given the dangers of staph infections, MERS, chicken pox, and lice.

I believe these strategies will provide a balanced, sensible approach to our budget needs.

QUESTION #3 (millage)

The millage question on this ballot is to raise the "non-homestead" (business) tax levy. State law limits that taxation to an absolute maximum of 18 mills. Romulus Community Schools currently levies 17.49 mills due to rollbacks required under the Headlee Act. The school district is exercising a loophole in the legislation that allows them to *seek authorization* to levy a higher rate than allowable under the law. This allows them to levy a higher rate (up to 18 mills) if subsequent years mandate further Headlee rollbacks. For example, if they are "authorized" to levy 18, and they are required to "roll back" the actual levy, the new rate may be under 18 mills. However, if they are "authorized" to levy more than 18, there is a likelihood that they would then be able to collect the maximum 18 mills.

It is my personal opinion that this ballot language, as it is presented, circumvents the spirit and intent of the Headlee Act. In fact, there are several taxpayer advocate groups in the State of Michigan working to close the loophole that allows taxing units to use these types of tactics. It is important to note that in November of 2008, the school district attempted to "authorize" an additional 1.5 mills. That ballot measure failed, I believe, in part, because voters saw that it exceeded the 18-mil limit.

Because of my conviction that government must be open, honest, transparent, and direct with its constituents, I cannot in good conscience endorse the millage proposal as submitted. However, it must be noted that my concern is the method in which this was handled, not with the need for funds for our children. I urge Romulus voters to decide for themselves if this ballot proposal should be approved on May 5. □

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

TRUE HEALTH chiropractic

Jeremiah M. Shaft D.C.

9340 Wayne Rd • Suite 100
Romulus, MI 48174
734-941-2211

Wild Willy's Chill & Grill

LIVE MUSIC

Every Friday & Saturday Night
6221 Middlebelt • South of Van Born
734-722-5560

WELCOME HOMETOWN RENTING

Apartment • House • Store • Office

Prime Locations & Schools
Expressways & Shopping

- LAMBERT PROPERTIES -
734-941-1616

WEEKLY
RATE
\$134⁹⁵
1 person

DAILY
RATE
\$32⁹⁵
per nite

With this ad only

With this ad only

METRO INN

8230 Merriman Rd. • N. of I-94
734-729-7600

WE BEAT ALL COMPETITORS' PRICES

Romulus Family Dental, P.C.

37235 Goddard
(Near 5-Points)
Romulus, MI

734-941-0343

Rhonda J. Hennessy, D.D.S.



OAKLEY & ROBINSON, P.L.L.C.

Attorneys at Law

36830 Goddard Road • P.O.Box 74086
Romulus, MI 48174

www.romuluslaw.com

734-941-1920 • Fax: 734-941-0026

FAMILY DENTISTRY

Ronald N. Mizikow, D.D.S., P.C.



New Patient
Referral Program

GIFT CARD REWARDS

INQUIRE ABOUT OUR
"NEW PATIENT" SPECIAL

13727 Huron River Dr. • Romulus
734-941-0010



Everingham Chiropractic Health Center, P.C.

"FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC CARE"

Dr. Craig J. Everingham

— Open 6 Days —

12100 Huron River Drive • Romulus
734-941-5620 • Fax: 734-941-1763

www.everinghamchiropractic.com

Belleville Transmission & Auto Service

Over 34 Years of Service

537-541 E. Huron River Drive
Belleville, MI 48111



734-699-7422

Fax: 734-699-7080

GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.

AAA Lawn Service & Snow Removal

Commercial and
Industrial Properties

Insured • Reliable • Dependable

Lawn Maintenance & Landscaping

734-728-1076

GORHAM & SONS NURSERY • LANDSCAPING

SHADE TREES • EVERGREENS
SHRUBS • POTTED STOCK

LARGE SPECIALTY STOCK LINE OF
JAPANESE MAPLES • POM POMS
SPIRALS & MUCH MORE

19325 Wahrman • Huron Township
1,000 ft. East of I-275 • (Sibley Rd Exit 13)

734-753-4481

VanAssche Construction LLC

Local business for 30 years

(734) 942-5090

Backhoes Dozers Excavator

Sewer repair • Driveways • Basement
Trenching • Parking Lots • Demolition

Trucking

• Stone • Sand • Fill Dirt

Queenie's Detail Shop

A Full-Detail Clean-up Shop
and Hand Car Wash

MONDAY - SATURDAY

\$10 Cars Only **\$15** Trucks & SUVs

Wash Inside & Out • Windows • Tires
(Tire Dressing \$2 extra) • with coupon only

36050 Goddard • 734-247-4552

WWW.ZAXNU.COM

Customized Apparel Specialists
Silkscreening • Heat Press • Embroidery

Special:
18" x 24" Outdoor Vinyl Sign (Stake Included)
\$10.00
NO Minimum Quantity Required

Vinyl Auto Lettering
US DOT #'s • Phone #'s • Your Logo
734.483.8579
Orders@Zaxnu.com

• • • FIREWOOD • • •

OAK • CHERRY •
ASH • WALNUT •
MAPLE • HICKORY •
APPLE • MULBERRY •
LOCUST



SEASONED, SPLIT, & DELIVERED
INSURED TREE & SAWMILL SERVICE
CUSTOM-CUT LUMBER
734-635-3333

Advertising in
Our Business Directory
Will Direct Business
Your Way!

\$90.00 = Your Ad in the
Business Directory
for 6 Consecutive Issues.
Just Call 734-941-1907

9863 Middlebelt • Romulus, MI

734-946-8808



FREE Cont. Breakfast
FREE Wireless Internet
FREE Airport Shuttle
Park & Fly Pkg. Available

DAILY RATE
\$39⁹⁹
& Up

WEEKLY RATE
\$145⁹⁹
& Up

Limited Time Offers • New Guests Only

MADD FLAVA

Men's & Women's Apparel
Many Tasteful Accessories
Plus Sizes Available

"Come and Sava the Flava"

Mon.-Fri., 10 to 8 • Sun., Noon to 5

5754 Merriman • Wayne, MI
734-722-5216

High Ridge

Total Outdoor Service

Landscaping • Fertilizing
Lawn Care • Patios & Decks
Spring Cleanup

Just Call

313-506-8363

Queenie's Detail Shop

A Full-Detail Clean-up Shop
and Hand Car Wash

MONDAY - SATURDAY

\$10 Cars Only **\$15** Trucks & SUVs

Wash Inside & Out • Windows • Tires
(Tire Dressing \$2 extra) • with coupon only

36050 Goddard • 734-247-4552

— SPRING FLEA MARKET 2009 —

St. Paul's Lutheran Church • New Boston, MI

Thursday, April 30th through Saturday, May 2nd • 9 am to 2 pm

Antiques, Collectibles, Furniture, and More